



Mr. Bee's Answer to Mr. Poole's Second Vindication of his Design for Printing A Synopsis of Criticall and other Commentators.



Ere it not that Mr. Bee had received the Character of Mr. Poole, to be a confident and restless man in his way, he should have very much wondred to have found him publishing a new Vindication of his Design, &c. for Mr. Bee really believed the strength and reason of his former Paper, in Answer to what Mr. Poole and all his Friends were able before to say, would have satisfied, and once more silenced him, and saved both parties the farther trouble of multiplying Replies upon the present Difference. But since Mr. Poole has again gone about to abuse the World with a second Paper, which he calls by the same name as he did his former, (and well he may so doe, since it consists in so great measure of mere vain and needless Repetitions of what he had formerly written, and what Mr. Bee had formerly as fully answered; the rest of it being made up of notorious Falsities, Mistakes wilfull or of Ignorance, something of Absurditie, an impertinent Flash or two of Wit, and Confidence more then sufficient through the whole) Mr. Bee is resolved not to be behind-hand with him in justifying his Right and Propriety, and therefore to Mr. Poole's Second Vindication returns this Answer, (if at least any Sense and Reason will pass with Mr. Poole for an Answer.)

1. For his first Clause, of consulting with able Lawyers, and receiving their Judgement in favour of his Design; Mr. Bee thinks he hath sufficiently answered that already; that one Story may be good till another be heard, that he hath also the Judgement of very able Lawyers against the Design, and that if Mr. Bee himself were fairly and fully to state the Case to those very Gentlemen named by Mr. Poole, he nothing doubts but, upon a clear sight of the Pretensions and Grounds on both sides, they would be ready to entertain favourable thoughts to his Right in the Business controverted.

2. For Mr. Poole's Offer to refer all to Arbitration, &c. and Mr. Bee's Refusall; Mr. Bee has confessed it, and given a Reason for it sufficiently good to satisfy any Rational man. For the grand Absurdity Mr. Bee is guilty of, neither Mr. Bee nor any body else can tell where it lies. Mr. Poole saies, It was not to be referr'd whether the CRITICKS were Mr. Bee's; but what Right Mr. Bee had in Mr. Poole's Collections out of them and many others. Mr. Bee answers, that Mr. Poole's Collections out of the CRITICKS were Mr. Bee's just Right, as being his Authours in part; and for his many others, they could be no ground of any Reference, since he never laid Claim to them, nor had any thing to say to them. So that Mr. Bee's Authours in part (which Mr. Poole calls his Collections) were the thing to be referr'd, whether they were Mr. Poole's or Mr. Bee's Right. And where now lies the Absurdity? Whereas Mr. Poole saies he offered an Equivalent, a greater proportion of Materials, and I know not how much Care and Pains in contriving and digesting the whole: Mr. Bee answers; for his Pains he may thank himself, if he would be busier then he needed, and run his Plow into another man's Ground upon his own head. What his Care was, Mr. Bee knows not; but when Mr. Bee shall have knock'd off Mr. Poole's fingers from meddling at all with his CRITICKS, and Mr. Poole shall have given his Subscribers two or three more such Slurs as he has done by quitting the Billia Maxima, one of his best Materials, which he formerly promised to bring in, but now declares he will let alone, (so that they know not what they pay their Money for) Mr. Bee thinks by that time he may have his Labour for his Care and Pains. For the rest of his Materials Mr. Bee knows not what they are: but were they of never so much worth and credit, when Mr. Bee saies he'll have nothing to doe with them, and Mr. Poole's other Collections are his own already, how can Mr. Bee or any man else look upon this as an Equivalent? So that Mr. Bee goes on to declare, that Mr. Poole may as well religiously Epitomize his Purse upon the High-way, as goe about by these crooked and sinister Artifices to extort his unquestionable Right out of his hands, and all (as he pretends) for the Glory of God. That Mr. Bee never chose above one person to any Meeting, and that one declar'd himself unsatisfied with Mr. Poole's Profer, Mr. Bee again affirms. And whereas Mr. Poole threatens never to offer the like Terms again; Mr. Bee cannot help it, but desires Mr. Poole not to trouble his head about that, till such time as he shall send to him, and beg such a Favour of him.

3. For Mr. Bee's Unrighteousness, and his bringing down the Prices of Books to the loss and prejudice of many Scholars, (if there be any so prejudiced) there needs no new Answer. But whereas Mr. Poole saies, If these Losses and Injuries be expiated by the Serviceableness of Mr. Bee's Design to the publick good, why may not he have the benefit of the same Plea? Mr. Bee answers, Because Mr. Poole has not that true and just Title to the Copies he pretends to as himself had. For Mr. Bee meddled with no Authours that any Englishman could claim a Right in, without first making them Satisfaction: But Mr. Poole declares to take his principal Materials out of those Authours that Mr. Bee has made himself a Legal Title in, and that without his Leave or Consent, or any Consideration for them. Let Mr. Poole but keep his own ground, and not trespass upon the CRITICKS, and let his Epitomizing bring down the prices of what Authours he will.

4. To his fourth Clause, (which is most of it Crambe) concerning one man's Epitomizing another's Copy without being question'd for it, (as Mr. Poole saies) Mr. Bee gives his former Answer, That Mr. Poole will find no Book in England, of one sort or other, (before the Parliament 1642) printed either in whole or part, but either by the right Owner, or with his Consent and Approbation; and the like in any forein settled Kingdome, State, or Principality. What things have been here since done to the contrary, have been done beside Law and

and Reason. And if some men in those *Arbitrary* and *Licentious* times have not been able to help themselves against *Usurpers*, their case was to be *pitied*, rather than drawn into *Example*. But if any true Proprietors will in *these daies* either wink at other men while they pick their Pockets, or be negligent of their own Interests, when they have the Law open to defend and justify them, or think it not worth their while to *sue a Beggar and catch Vermin*, or it may be have taken *Composition* under-hand, (all which are at least *tacit Consents*) why should this sway any thing with Mr. Bee, who never made over the least of his Right, nor any way allow'd another to meddle with it, but is resolv'd (by God's assistance) to try what the Law will doe for him, which as it is the great *Discerner*, so the *Securer* of all mens *Proprieties*? For *Asarlorat's Epitome*, Mr. Bee again avers, that it was printed at the Charge of the same Bookfellers that had the Propriety in the Authours he *Epitomized*, and printed by the very same Printer. Mr. Poole saies, he that looks on the Title-pages of those Authours will find this a mere *Fidion* of Mr. Bee. But let Mr. Poole look on the Title-pages of the *first Impressions* of those Authours, (not those *after-Impressions* in other Countries which lay out of the bounds of their *Privileges*, and could no way be prevented, as Mr. Bee cannot prevent a *Discourtesie* of that nature to himself in *Forcin* parts, and therefore had need to be secured by his *Grant* at home) Let Mr. Poole look on these, and he will soon find Mr. Bee's Tale true, and the *Fidion* to lie at his own door. By that time Mr. Poole has served an *Apprenticeship* to the Trade (as every Bookfeller should) he will learn to make this distinction: but at present he is but *raw* and *green* in the way. That the *Law-Patent-Cafe* was determined by the Lord Keeper the *last Term*, (by which Mr. Poole must mean *Hilary Term*, for this is but the same *Untruth* repeated, which he formerly printed in his first Paper a little after *that Term*) Mr. Bee wonders with what face Mr. Poole can persist in so gross and palpable a *Falsity*; when 'tis notoriously known that in that *last Term* (as he calls it) there was nothing like a *Determination*, but it was onely *referr'd* to a future Hearing the ensuing *Easter term*, that in that *Term* it was again heard, and again put off, and at this present *Term* continues undecided. This all the Town can tell him. Now what *eminent Lawyer* it was that should so abuse Mr. Poole, (if Mr. Poole does not rather abuse his *Lawyer*) as to assure him he was present, and heard the Lord Keeper *determine* the Cafe, Mr. Bee cannot imagine, but takes the whole Story for a *Castle built in the Air* of Mr. Poole's Fancy, as most of what he saies besides seems to have had its first hatching and production there.

5. Mr. Poole saies, he does not pretend to *Epitomize* the whole CRITICKS. Nor does Mr. Bee know how it can be done: for can a man *Epitomize*, and yet take the whole? can he take but *parts* of a thing, and yet have *all*? However (as Mr. Bee said formerly) he takes all that he judges the *best*, and makes most for his purpose; he takes the *Kernell*, and leaves the *Shell* to Mr. Bee for his *Fifteen thousand pound*. No, saies Mr. Poole, there are many material things in them not belonging to *Exposition of Scripture*, which are valuable another way. But what if Mr. Poole should fall upon another *Design* hereafter, and then Collect out of them all that he now leaves behind, by the same Law and Reason that he now thinks to run away with so considerable a part of them? Mr. Bee remembers the Apologue of the old Fox and the young one. A sorry Fox *Epitomized* a Flock of Geese, and brought home a couple of the *fattest*. The young ones laugh'd. At dinner saies one of them, Mother, they are excellent meat; but why did you bring no more of them? Peace, you fool, saies the old one, I have brought you home two of the *best*, and when occasion serves I know where to find the *rest* of them. So that Mr. Bee has no Security for the Remainder, and all that he has to thank Mr. Poole for is, his *Reprieving* the residue of his CRITICKS till his *Lust* and *Stomach* be as ready for them as his *Conscience* is.

6. His last Clause divides the Hoof, splits into two parts, and behold there come forth *Twins*. The first part consists of a *Tale of a Tub*, the second, *With the Bottom out*.

To the first Mr. Bee saies, that he understands not what Mr. Poole means, when he saies his *Design* can be no *Loss* of any present or certain Benefit to Mr. Bee. 'Tis true, what is *certain* and *present* Mr. Bee is sure of. But this is certain at present, that the noise of Mr. Poole's Project (with divers that did not well understand the true state of Business) has done him some manifest *Disservice* abroad, which Mr. Bee must bear as well as he can. And whereas Mr. Poole is so rashly confident as to publish in print now a *second time*, that several of Mr. Bee's Partners declare they will not joyn with him in a *second Impression*: why should they declare so, when Mr. Bee had never *proposed* the thing to them? But to stop Mr. Poole's mouth for this matter, and to spoil his game here, let him but read the following few words as they *voluntarily* came from Mr. Bee's Partners (now living) subscribed with their own hands.

We declare that we never refused to joyn with Mr. Bee in re-printing the CRITICKS, as Mr. Poole falsely chargeth us in his Paper.

Richard Royston. William Wells,
Sam. Thomson. William Morden.

The Original of this Mr. Bee keeps by him, to satisfie Mr. Poole upon occasion, or any of his scrupling Friends.

But Mr. Poole goes on, and says 'tis generally believed by Scholars and Bookfellers, that it is not like to be printed. He neither tells their names, nor where they live. For the generality, Mr. Bee knows it to be false: and if there be any such that so believe, Mr. Bee would know whether ever they finger'd *Joseph's Divination-Cup*, or how they came to dive to the bottom of his Thoughts and Intentions. And yet they are grossly wide

wide in their Guesses, which are directly besides Mr. Bee's Resolution, (if God permit) to go on as *vigoreously* as Mr. Poole, according to the *Pattern* exhibited to the World in his late *Specimen*. But Mr. Poole lays this Undertaking of Mr. Bee is a work of time, charge, and uncertainty. For the *Uncertainty*, Mr. Poole's Design is equally subject to it; and more uncertain in this respect, that the *Epitomizer* himself seems to be so *uncertain*, as not yet to be well resolved what to take in to his *Doing*, and what to leave out; whereas Mr. Bee's whole *Design* is completed and digested. For Accidents and Casualties they are common to both. For the *Charge* of it, let it not trouble Mr. Poole, it shall never cost him a farthing. For the *Time*, Mr. Bee hopes to carry it on with that convenient expedition, that possibly it may prevent Mr. Poole's, and make a *younger Brother* of it, if it do not in the meanwhile prove *Abortive*, or stifled in the Wombe. And whereas Mr. Poole says he has a *Privilege* as well as Mr. Bee, and bears himself high upon that: Mr. Bee wonders upon the account of what *Merit* he procured it. But how-ever, he hopes Mr. Poole will consider he is his *senior* in *Privilege* eight years, and that the Scene lies not in *Kent*, but in *Middlesex*, where *Gavel-kind-Law* has no footing, but the *Elder* has the advantage and priority of the rest, that is, the *Privilege*. Both Mr. Bee and Mr. Poole can't have Right to the Estate. But if Mr. Bee's *Privilege* will not hold water, and secure him from any attempt Mr. Poole can make upon his Propriety, what does Mr. Poole think will become of his, if any man should go about in a *mad* humour to *Epitomize* part or *whole* (as he phrases it) of his *Design*? If Mr. Bee's *Privilege* will do no good, why should Mr. Poole trouble himself to procure one, which may as well be undermined by another, and that by a third, and so Mr. Poole be reduced to the same condition as he endeavours to bring Mr. Bee into, smart by his own Rod, and be gull'd of his *pretended* Right after his own Example?

To the second part; Whereas Mr. Poole instances in several Authours *Epitomized*, as *Baronius*, *Raleigh*, &c. which yet bear good rates in the World, and therefore Mr. Bee's Clamours are groundless, &c. Mr. Bee answers, that there are *Epitomes* which have been undertaken with so little discretion and judgement in the Managery, that the Undertakers have been *laugh'd at* and *bis'd off the Stage*: and no wonder if those Authours at large have kept their Advantage. But for others, *Baronius* for one, they have been manifestly obstructed in their *sales* and *rates*, says the *old Book-seller*, what-ever Mr. Poole, (who is yet but a *Pretender* to the Trade) may say to the contrary. But is there any Authour so *martyred* as Mr. Poole threatens to serve Mr. Bee's, and yet *lives*? He pretends to *drain* and *suck* all the *marrow* and *heart-blond* out of the *CRITICKS*, all that tends any way to the *understanding* of *difficult* places of *Scripture*, which is the whole *Design* and *Life* of Mr. Bee's nine Volumes? Mr. Poole says, Mr. Bee did formerly declare that such a *Synopsis* as Mr. Poole's would not prejudice his Work. If Mr. Poole means the *Synopsis* as he has now contriv'd it, to consist two Volumes in three out of his Work, there's no man can believe Mr. Bee so *senseless* as to express himself to any such purpose. All that he said was, if Mr. Poole meddled not with his *CRITICKS*, or if his *Design* were as he first represented it to Mr. Bee, it would not be so prejudicial: but since he has declared to take one *whole Volume*, and another time no less than *two*, out of them, the case is alter'd, and Mr. Bee must not be understood to declare a thing so manifestly tending to his own ruine. Whereas Mr. Poole twits Mr. Bee with his conceit of *imaginary Profit* which may accrue to him, does not Mr. Poole expect the like in his Undertaking? and what may Mr. Bee think of him, who has the *real profit* and advantage of his *Subscription-money* for some moneths at least, if his *Design* goes no farther on?

Having gone thus far, Mr. Poole proposes two smart Cases, which if Mr. Bee thought it worth the while he would answer. To the first of them he says onely this, That if Mr. Poole will bring his *imaginary* Reverend and Learned *Doctor* out of the *Clouds*, where he supposes him to live, and procure a Meeting betwixt Mr. Bee and him, Mr. Bee will give him a satisfactory Answer to the wild *Quere* Mr. Poole makes on his behalf, (whether he may not print a *Collection* gathered out of several other as well as Mr. Bee's Authours before he printed them, (divers of which latter neither Mr. Poole nor his learned *Doctor* had ever seen or heard of, had not they found them in the *CRITICKS*) print this *Collection*, I say, which he made for his own *private use*:) but till then Mr. Bee will give neither him nor Mr. Poole leave to tamper with any thing that has so immediate a relation to himself by way of Propriety.

The other, of *Epitomizing Speed*, &c. (which Mr. Poole saies is exactly his Case) is as shallow: But the main thing that Mr. Bee observes by Mr. Poole's *ramble*, from the *CRITICKS*, to *Law-Books*, from them to *Dictionary's*, to *Historians*, to one thing after another, is this, that Mr. Poole's aim is for the *levelling* of all *Propriety* in any sorts of Books whatsoever: and if he be not well observed in his present motion, he (or some other of his Friends that now *lie fallow* and have leisure enough) may ere long attempt farther in subjects of another nature, especially if he once finde himself of strength to deal with Mr. Bee in the present Dispute.

But the thing that does most of all *sting* and *nettle* Mr. Poole is Mr. Bee's challenging him of *breach* of *Promise* before his going into *Holland*, which was, that he would desist in his *Design* till Mr. Bee's return from thence. Here Mr. Poole is *fore* and *winces*, and at last is so far carried as to say he is ready to contradict Mr. Bee with an *Oath*, (which it may be for all that he would not doe if he were put to it.) He says, had any such *Promise* been made, Mr. Bee would have put it in his *First Paper*. That Mr. Bee spared him then, was out of a respect he had to his *Coat*, (though Mr. Poole's were never perfectly *black*) and the hope he had he should have no occasion to *unbutton* it. But since nothing else would serve the turn, Mr. Bee thought it *scandalously* no longer, but to let the world know how *unworthily* Mr. Poole had dealt by him. So that it was no *afternoon-dream*, as Mr. Poole *waggishly* suggests, but a real *Truth* of some weeks standing, though then first awak'd by Mr. Bee, to the confutation of Mr. Poole's boast of his great *Sincerity* and *Candour* in this whole Transaction. But let Mr. Poole have a care, that notwithstanding Mr. Bee's *afternoon-dream*, he be not up time enough in the *morning* to meet him in the first full career of his *vigorous proceeding*, and take the boldness to bid him *Stand*. For Mr. Bee's good invention, let any man judge where the *Invention* lies, and who has the best

knack

knack that way, by the several Weaknesses Mr. Poole has been trapp'd in through this whole Paper hitherto. When Mr. Poole cites 2 Kings 9. 11. Mr. Bee is afraid he is beside the Text, and had turned down the wrong leaf, or that he prick'd with a Pin for it, as Boys do in a *Lottery-Book*; otherwise Mr. Bee thinks he might have as well cited the first verse in *Genesis* as that, for any thing that either the one or the other concerns the present business. But though Mr. Poole be a little obscure here, yet by and by Mr. Bee questions not but to make the World know the man and his communication. How much more pertinent had it been for Mr. Poole to have turned to another Chapter? where he should have found *Abab*, a branded man for notorious impiety, yet making Conscience in the case of another's Vineyard, which he would not seize upon either in whole or part without first profering an equivalent Compensation? But as to Mr. Poole's Promise in *Jewin Street*, Mr. Bee is ready to swear, that it was given, and for 3 months, with those circumstances which he has related in his former Paper. And though it had the fortune to be a *private* and *unwitnessed* Transaction, (as Mr. Poole saies, who has otherwhile told Mr. Bee, that if a *third* man should at any time come amongst them, he would hold no discourse of the business in difference betwixt them) yet Mr. Bee has sufficient witness, that after his Return from *Holland*, this Passage was betwixt Mr. Poole and him in his Shop. Mr. Bee there in discourse taxed Mr. Poole with faileur in his Promise made before he went over. Mr. Poole then, as now, denied any such Promise. What was it then, Mr. Poole, said Mr. Bee, that you and I talked of so long together in *Jewin Street*? Was it not about my business? And was there nothing of a Promise mention'd? Mr. Poole at last ingenuously confess'd he promised for *three weeks*. This was over-heard and ready to be attested by one then at a little distance from us. Now Mr. Bee leaves it to others to judge, the onely ground of the Promise being his necessary occasion of absence in the *Low-Countries* about his Concerns, which he then told Mr. Poole would require *three months* time; whether it were to any purpose for Mr. Poole to promise, or Mr. Bee to accept the Promise for *three weeks*, which was all one as if there had been no Promise at all; and whether it be not probable (there being a Promise made) it was rather for the whole term Mr. Bee's Occasions required; who, had it not been that he had thought himself secure during his being abroad upon Mr. Poole's word pass'd, had at least *defer'd* his Voiage till some time after. But Mr. Poole grows warm, and saies he is ready to make Oath before a Magistrate that he made no such Promise. Though Mr. Bee is not a little pleas'd to find Mr. Poole so far coming on, that at length he can persuade himself to be willing to take some kind of Oath upon some occasion; yet for him, who, after some boggling, at last refused and still stands out against a *Subscription* tendered from the great Authority of the Nation, tending so much to the preservation of the quiet and peace of the Nation, for him to make his first Essay of Swearing in a Case tending to his own private profit and advantage, to the manifest Detriment of his neighbour, and where Mr. Bee is confident the Truth stands against him; Mr. Bee desires him to consider whether there be not something of his own *Gnat* and *Camel* in the case.

For Mr. Bee's spreading a Report, that Mr. Poole's Work was stopp'd; Mr. Bee gives this short Answer in Mr. Poole's ear: *'Tis false*. But if any employ'd by Mr. Poole to disperse his *Specimens* should accidentally glean up such a story in the *Coffee-house*, Mr. Bee cannot help it, nor is he bound to answer what people say in that *prattling School*. How could Mr. Bee goe about to raise such a Report, when he knew in his Conscience he never had mov'd the least step towards the *stopping* of it? For as long as Mr. Poole was but onely words and Preparations, Mr. Bee never troubled himself to meddle with him, or by any Application extraordinary to disturb him; neither is he a man of that temper, to impound his neighbour's Cattel till he take them *Damage-seasant*. Now, is his time to *stop* him; and it may be Mr. Poole may soon find it more then a Report.

But in the mean while, who raised the Report both in the City and Universities, that Mr. Bee's friends need not make such a stir about Mr. Poole's unjust and hard dealing with Mr. Bee, for Mr. Bee was well satisfied by Mr. Poole in the business? Certainly this must be either Mr. Poole's doing, (the story is so false) or Mr. Bee knows not where to look the Authour; it being probable no uninterested person would concern himself to hammer out such a notorious invention. It must therefore be at least a *Sharer* in the *Synopsis of Criticall and other Commentators* that first contrived it, as Mr. Bee is well assured it was first published and maintained in the above-named talking *Academy*.

To conclude, let Mr. Poole rest content with what is his own, and leave Mr. Bee to dispose as he thinks good of what is *his*; let him leave out the *Critical*, and retain his *other Commentators*: if then Mr. Poole have occasion to cite here and there a passage out of Mr. Bee's Authours, (for confirmation of the Subject he treats on, as he may a Text of Scripture in a Sermon, according to the Judgement of one of his Lawyers) Mr. Bee shall not be against it, provided he do it *civilly* and *modestly*; for Mr. Bee does not love he should cite *all* his Book thus *at a time*. But if a *Synopsis* be a Beast of that nature, to hook and fang in all that lies within its reach for its Master's advantage, Mr. Bee thinks it not fit to be endured in a Commonwealth where *Ateum* and *Tunn* are in fashion. It is yet in Mr. Poole's power for him and Mr. Bee to part friends, the fault is else at *his* door: but in case Mr. Poole proceeds in his perverse humour, Mr. Bee is resolv'd (with God's help) to make use of those Remedies which are proper for the Disease, and to endeavour by the best Art he can to put a stop to Mr. Poole in his unreasonable proceedings.

June 10. 1668.

784 ^{xxxxx}
2

An Advertisement concerning

Mr. POOLE'S *Synopsis*, &c.

THere being some supernumerary Books printed in reference to forein parts, and divers of our own Nation (who in reason should be first provided for) having declared their Disappointments in their intended Subscriptions by divers accidents, and their desire to subscribe, if it were not too late; they may hereby take notice, that if they speedily come or send to Mr. *Cornelius Bee's* at the King's Arms in *Little Britain* in *London*, they shall be directed and assisted to procure the First Volume at the same price with the former Subscribers; viz. paying 50 s. in hand, and 15 s. more at the coming forth of the Second Volume, and 15 s. more at the coming forth of the Third Volume; for which they are to receive the First Volume in hand, and the Second and Third Volumes when they shall be printed and published. And any person that shall speedily subscribe or procure Subscriptions for Ten Books shall have one for himself. And whereas there are some few Copies left of the Royall Paper, over and above those that were disposed of to Benefactors, those that desire them, paying the double price, (as the manner is in such cases,) may be furnished with them. And such as desire an exchange of their ordinary Books for the other of Royal Paper, shall be allowed what they pay'd for them: every Subscriber paying 6 d. each Volume for incidentall Charges.

March 31. 1690.

Matthew Poole.
Cornelius Bee.